

What's Happening in **WEST ST. PAUL**

Summer 2017



Photo: Andy Berndt

Give Us a Click or a Call

CITY OF WEST ST. PAUL

Municipal Center
1616 Humboldt Avenue
West St. Paul, MN 55118

Office Hours M-F - 8:00am - 4:30pm

MAYOR

Jenny Halverson 651-208-7649
jhalverson@wspmn.gov

CITY COUNCIL

Ward I | Bob Pace 612-308-9659
bpace@wspmn.gov

Ward I | Dick Vitelli 651-460-0419
dvitelli@wspmn.gov

Ward II | Anthony Fernandez 612-978-4461
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Ward II | Ed Iago 651-731-4447
eiago@wspmn.gov

Ward III | David Napier 612-562-9773
dnapiers@wspmn.gov

Ward III | John Bellows 651-238-4444
jbellows@wspmn.gov

CITY MANAGER

Ryan Schroeder 651-552-4101
rschroeder@wspmn.gov

PHONE

Main Line - Reception 651-552-4100

Emergency Police or Fire 911

Non-Emergency Police 651-322-2323

South Metro Fire Dept. 651-552-4176

Parks & Recreation 651-552-4150

Building Department 651-552-4116

Code Enforcement 651-552-4114

Police Admin/Records 651-552-4200

Elections 651-552-4102

Golf Course (seasonal) 651-457-6064

Ice Arena (seasonal) 651-552-4155

Sports Dome/WSPRAC 651-552-4158

Streets & Boulevard Trees 651-552-4160

Inflow & Infiltration 651-552-4137

Business Licensing 651-552-4203

WEB

www.wspmn.gov



facebook.com/CityofWSP
facebook.com/WestStPaulPD



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from the MAYOR'S DESK



As promised in our last newsletter, we will use this space to highlight some of the places that make us proud to call West St. Paul home. Given that summer is now upon us, it gives us reason to explore the history and development of West St. Paul's very first City park, opened in 1925. We all recognize Harmon Park as it is now: large splash pad, fun playground, and beautiful Little League fields. Even for those of us who have been here for decades, it's almost hard to remember what was once there. We've dug through some of our archives and found some interesting history on the transformation that has occurred on the land that is now Harmon Park.



In the very early days of the City of West St. Paul, John and Natalie Wolters bought clay-rich land at \$1500 an acre to start a brickyard. By 1896, the clay had run out. Without the resources to continue their brickyard, the Wolters began a gardening business on the same land. This business would thrive through multiple generations and occupy the land for over a century.

Upon John Sr.'s passing, sons John Jr. and Peter (picture 3) took over the business in 1932. They expanded the holdings to over 30 acres, growing flowers, shrubs, vegetables and assorted greenery.

Having learned the family business at an early age, Peter Jr. (picture 4 at just 8 years old) took over the business in 1970.

In 2004, after over a century of success, the City of West St. Paul acquired the land from the Wolters family for future expansion of Harmon Park. In 2016, the newly remodeled park was unveiled and is currently one of the City's most utilized spaces. The remodel includes a splash pad (picture 1), playground (picture 2), hockey rink, Neighborhood Center, soccer and football field and of course the quadruple little league ball fields, aptly named Wolters Field. Peter Jr.'s wife Paulette and their daughters unveiled the beautiful Wolters Field dedication stone at the Harmon Park grand opening (picture 5).

As we continue to enjoy Harmon Park, we can help preserve the beauty of the space and the functionality of the features by being conscientious park visitors. Our City crews will patrol and perform daily maintenance of the building and grounds and our Staff will respond in a timely fashion to reports of areas that need attention. We are also privileged to have the help of a group of student volunteers from Heritage Middle School who will help with upkeep of the grounds as part of our Adopt-A-Park

program. For more information on that program or to report any Park issues, please contact our Staff at (651) 552-4150.

Thank you for your support of our Parks and Recreation spaces and programs. I look forward to recognizing another point of pride for West St. Paul this fall. Enjoy your Summer!

Sincerely,
Jenny Halverson



Looking to Our Future

The City Council recently met in a strategic planning session to discuss the long term vision for our community. It was a very positive, collaborative meeting and the City Council was energized by the ideas that were brought forth. The enthusiasm was contagious as the Council went from setting the vision to developing strategic priorities.

You will hear much more about this as plans are developed to implement the vision and priorities. That is especially true since the Council unanimously agreed that we need to reach out and connect more with residents, including those who traditionally have not been involved with their community.

ITEMS DISCUSSED RAN THE GAMUT FROM

- Improving streets
- Bringing in new businesses and quality housing
- Improving trails and expanding sidewalks to improve walkability
- Repairing Community facilities
- Looking at alternative sources of revenue
- Improving maintenance of our parks.

Creating the future of our community takes focus and partnerships. We are all in this together and need your help to make improvements and ensure our community is vibrant, adaptable and welcoming to all.

Interim City Manager

We are happy to announce that the West St. Paul City Council has offered our interim City Manager, Ryan Schroeder, the position on an indefinite basis. Ryan has been the interim City Manager since mid-January. Although he hadn't applied for the position, the City Council was impressed by his low key but deliberate style. The City Council gave their unanimous support to Mr. Schroeder at the May 22, 2017 Council meeting after realizing that they had just the person the community needed already working here.

His expertise in economic development, finance and management and his ability to work with Council and staff topped the list as strengths he brings to the City. Ryan brings a wealth of knowledge and experience in local government management including 18 years as the City Administrator of Cottage Grove. Prior to that, Ryan also worked as City Administrator in both Ramsey and Rockford, MN and as Assistant City Manager in Robbinsdale.

Ryan is working with the City Council on refining our City vision and strategic plan. He hopes to work on improving our financial position while meeting the needs of the Community. Issues he has worked on in the past few months include:

- Meeting with community stakeholders and community groups.
- Assisting the EDA Executive Director in his efforts to bring commercial development opportunities to the community.
- Preparing for the next annual budget cycle and creating a long term financial plan.
- Working with the State Legislature and others to seek future funding opportunities for the community.
- Beginning a long term strategic facilities plan to maintain, update, repair, or if need be, replace existing public buildings.

2017 Road Construction Update

Robert Street

Have you driven on Robert Street lately? Flags are installed. Trees and plants are planted. Things are really looking up! Crews are working to wrap up the work on Robert Street by the end of June. The south end of the project is getting most of the attention this year with trees, pedestrian ramps and sidewalks.

There will be a little work popping up late summer though, as the ornamental railing is currently being fabricated for the sidewalk on the east side of Robert Street between Muriel Boulevard and Carol Lane.

2017 Street Improvement Project

As you probably know, there are a number of streets in West St. Paul that are in rough shape. This year we are trying to catch up a little and are doing twice the normal number of projects! Work got off to an early start and the first lift of asphalt was paved on Runge Lane May 2!

We are well into the 2017 Street Improvements Project. Over 2.5 miles of city streets are being reconstructed this year, most of which will have new watermain installed by St. Paul Regional Water. Due to the age of the infrastructure, private utilities are also taking advantage of the road being torn up to replace their lines. Getting everyone's work done in the streets does take time and coordination, but it will pay off once it's complete. For weekly construction updates please visit www.wspmn.gov/2017StreetImprovements.

Dakota County Projects in WSP

Dakota County is closing the intersection of Wentworth and Oakdale Avenues on June 10 until the beginning of September. There will be no access through this intersection during that time and detours will be posted. When the intersection opens up, motorists will enjoy a brand new roundabout which will move traffic much more efficiently than the existing all-way stop.

Dakota County will also be putting a new layer of asphalt on Oakdale from Wentworth to Annapolis Street. The sanitary sewer utility holes will be repaired in June, the storm sewer structures in late July/early August and the actual milling and paving will occur in late August. For more information on Dakota County construction projects, visit www.dakotacounty.us and select Current Road Construction from the Transportation tab.

MnDOT HWY 110 Project

MnDOT will be giving Trunk Highway 110 a facelift this construction season between Highway 13 and I-494. Eastbound TH 110 is schedule to close for about six weeks beginning June 12, followed by a six week closure of westbound. Detours will be posted. For more information, visit the project website at mndot.gov/metro/projects/hwy110mendotaheights.

With no shortage of orange this summer, please make sure to slow down through construction zones for your safety and the workers.

Recycling

Recycling at Home

Dakota County's recycling rate has hovered at around 50-percent for years.

Legislation passed a few years ago set a goal of a 75-percent recycling rate by 2030. With your help, we can achieve that goal.

Knowing exactly what can be recycled can be confusing. Despite our best intentions sometimes the wrong items end up in our recycling bin. Take this quiz and test your knowledge on which items to put in the recycling bin and which to keep out. Compete with others in your house. Create teams. How about kids against adults?

Write the following in the correct list below:

- Plastic bottles & caps
- Extension cords
- Food cans
- Garden hoses
- Glass bottles
- Mail
- Food boxes (not freezer boxes)
- Mirrors
- Cardboard
- Beverage cans
- Paper "to-go" cups
- Wire
- Jugs
- Styrofoam
- Paper
- Ceramics
- Jars

10 TO RECYCLE	7 TO TRASH
1	1
2	2
3	3
4	4
5	5
6	6
7	7
8	
9	
10	

Answers on page 15.

Making West St. Paul Shine



Development & Redevelopment

Now that the Robert Street reconstruction project is virtually complete, West St. Paul is gaining attention as a development opportunity. During the recession and the subsequent highway construction project, business expansion slowed. However, we are currently receiving increased developer interest and a number of exciting projects are being suggested.

A challenge with redevelopment, however, is that while the City is often a facilitator of development proposals, the City most often does not have site control (doesn't own the land). Further, creating a development opportunity often involves packaging (buying) a number of existing properties in order to create a site ready for development.

Sometimes creating that development-ready site raises costs beyond the ability of the private sector to create a development option that makes economic sense. In these types of situations, the City often pursues third party funding (such as grant funds) in order to "close the gap" between a project that is financially feasible and one that is not. Then the City will often exchange those grant funds for certain project design elements or amenities, enhancing what might have otherwise been constructed.

Time-Consuming

Redevelopment is a long term process of working with existing property owners and businesses, the development community, lenders, prospective future businesses and others in an attempt to achieve a positive outcome for all involved.

The City Economic Development Director, under the direction of the Economic Development Authority, has been reaching out and meeting with potential developers for several key redevelopment areas along Robert Street. These efforts are targeted to get all of the development pieces to fall into place at the same time. It is like putting a puzzle together, only you don't own the table the puzzle is being put together on and the pieces get to decide where they want to go and when.

The City Planner and Planning Commission help to ensure businesses and housing are aesthetically pleasing and in the right spot, so we don't have a loud business in the middle of a quiet neighborhood or a strip mall next to an old Victorian mansion.

Our Building and Fire Inspectors make sure the workmanship of new construction meets all safety requirements in the State Building and Fire codes and also that rental housing is regularly inspected.

Code Enforcement

Enforcing the City's codes helps to remind residents and businesses alike that how we maintain our property, including our yards, affects the value of our property and that of everyone around us.

That's where we can all help by each of us doing our part. All of us can make sure we:

- Clean up after our pets.
- Keep our grass mowed and weeds addressed.
- Place our garbage cans and similar materials out of sight.
- Keep our yards free of clutter.
- Keep our homes well-maintained.

That goes for businesses too. Please remember that any litter near your business needs to be cleaned up daily, the grass mowed, hedges trimmed, plants watered, and any signs that are not code compliant removed. Our code enforcement staff are available to answer any questions and to assist in any way they can. They can be reached at 651-552-4114 or online at wspmn.gov/334/Code-Enforcement.

Economic Development

The City Council, staff and Planning Commission is hard at work doing some long-term planning.

Renaissance Plan

The City Council is currently reviewing the draft update for the Robert Street Renaissance Plan. If approved, the plan will provide the framework and vision for future redevelopment within the Robert Street corridor. Major components of the plan include the creation of mixed-use nodes at transit stop locations, as well as allowing for multi-family housing between established commercial centers. A mixed use node is a development that combines retail, housing, and public open space near transit stops.

Smith/Dodd Small Area Plan

A small area plan is being developed to expand upon previous planning efforts for the Smith/Dodd Neighborhood. The City has hired a consultant, WSB & Associates to assist with the project. (We received a grant from Dakota County to pay for the consultant.) The plan will include recommendations on future land use, building placement/design, landscaping, bicycling, traffic softening, and streetscape and park improvements (Dodd Park/Albert Park). Possible realignments of the Dodd/Smith intersection will also be examined. We will be asking for public input on what you would like to see

in the near future through a public open house and the City's website.

Comprehensive Plan

The City is in the process of updating its 2018 Comprehensive Plan. The Metropolitan Council requires an update every 10 years to align with regional goals for the metro area. The City also hired WSB & Associates to complete this update. We gathered important community input through our neighborhood meetings earlier this year. You can see the results of those meetings at wspmn.gov/228/Comprehensive-Plan-Update. We update this regularly, so feel free to check in monthly. The timeline to complete the Comprehensive Plan update is the end of this year.

Garlough/Marthaler Trail Realignment

The City also obtained a grant from Dakota County to complete a trail realignment study for the section of the County's River to River Regional Trail that winds through Garlough and Marthaler parks. We received public input through an open house in February and through individual stakeholder meetings. A draft report is nearing completion which will recommend trail realignments that will meet regional trail standards. The report will be reviewed by Council in the coming months.

Construction and Redevelopment Projects

2017 Jan-April WSP Projects:

Total Permits: 496
Permit Fees: \$128,415.56
Project Valuation: \$5,143,593.70

Westview Park Apartments

(former Southview Athletic Club)
A ribbon cutting ceremony was recently held to mark the start of construction on the 56 unit market rate apartment complex.

Dunkin Donuts/Baskin Robbins

Opening this summer!

EDA Owned Residential Lots

Construction of two single family homes located on 158 Haskel Street and 270

Annapolis (formerly owned by the EDA) will begin in May.

Habitat For Humanity Homes

Two Habitat Homes will start construction this summer. Locations include 941 Gorman Avenue and 1081 Gorman Avenue. They will be privately owned and listed for sale in the \$190,000 to \$210,000 range.

Business Assistance Available

The Metropolitan Consortium of Community Developers (MCCD) started the "Open to Business" Program. In partnership with the City of WSP, they offer free business consulting and

micro loans up to \$25,000 for prospective Dakota County businesses. Larger loans are available when MCCD partners with a local bank to provide financing. Call 952-484-3107 to reach an Open to Business representative or 612-789-7337 for an MCCD Representative.

Commercial Exterior Grant Program

Grants are available to encourage commercial building owners to reinvest in the exteriors of their buildings. The grants require a matching participation from the owner. The minimum is \$5,000 and the maximum is \$10,000. See www.wspmn.gov for more details and how to apply.



Nominations Sought for Outstanding Property Awards

Has your friend or neighbor been working on improving their property, lawn, or garden? Does a local business stand out to you because of their outstanding property maintenance and upkeep? Help the City of West St. Paul recognize them for their hard work and dedication to improving our community. Each year the City of West St. Paul recognizes properties that are well maintained or that have recently undergone significant improvements.

Both commercial and residential properties are eligible and anyone can nominate a property. The amount of money spent on improvements is not a factor in selecting the most outstanding property, but rather the use of the property and the efforts of the property owner. So be sure to submit before and after pictures with your nomination to show off their hard work!

Nominate a Property

Do you have a neighbor with a great home? Visit <http://wspmn.gov/197/Property-Recognition-Programs>

Pictures are highly encouraged. Nominations will be accepted until July 14th and winners will be announced at the second City Council meeting in August.

Please help us recognize the people and properties that help make West St. Paul great.

Sellers' Market

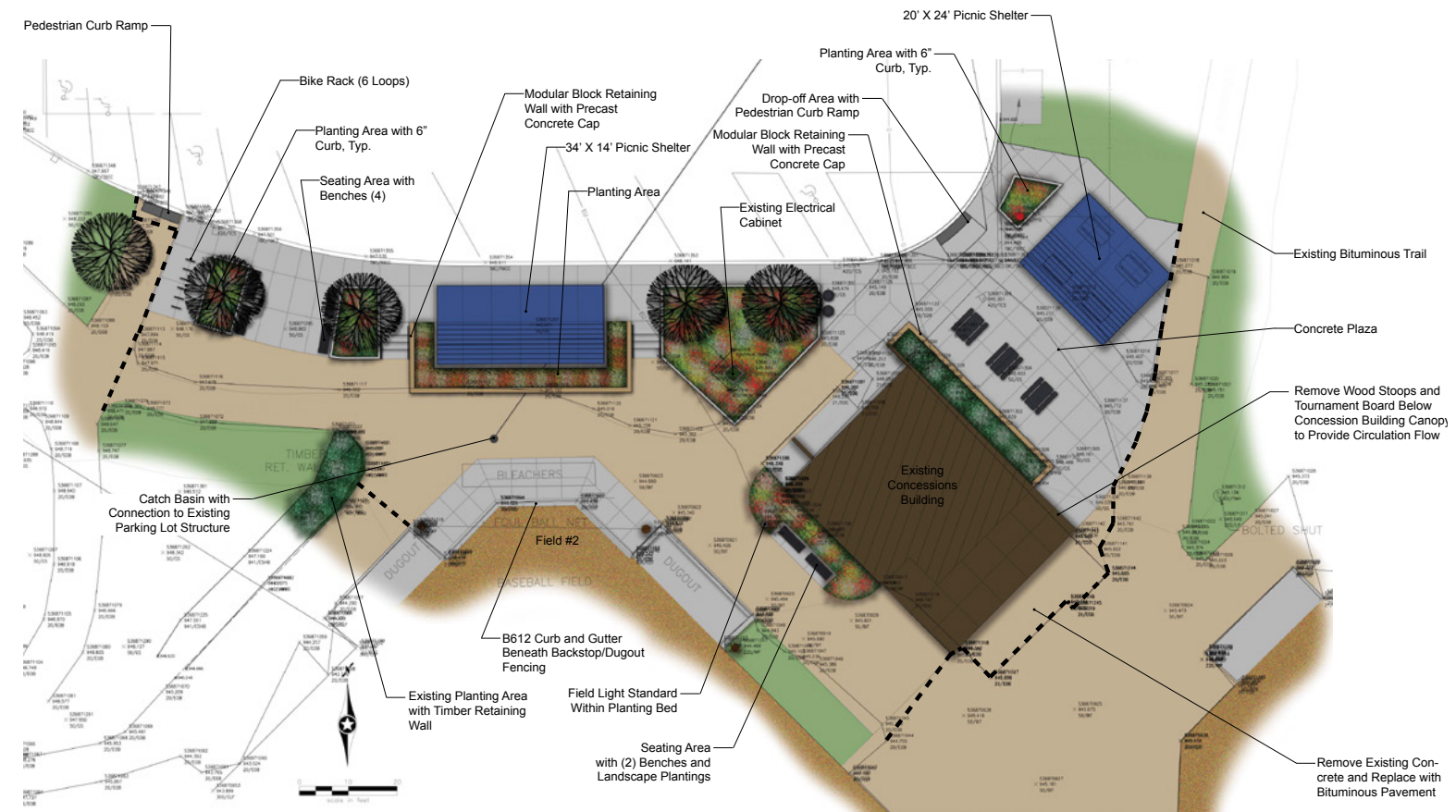
Are you interested in selling your home? In 2000, the City adopted the Housing Replacement Program and has purchased more than 30 homes since. This program was adopted to replace deteriorated, run-down, or lower value homes to increase the availability of quality housing and create re-investment opportunities in West St. Paul. All property acquisitions are voluntary and properties are purchased at fair market value. Any owner may approach City Staff and request an offer to purchase the property at fair market value. If the property owner accepts the offer, the EDA would purchase the property, then demolish the structure and re-sell the lot for the redevelopment of a new single family home.

Demolition Assistance

The Economic Development Authority also assists homeowners that are interested in keeping their lot and rebuilding a new home by providing financial assistance for demo costs. This can end up saving a homeowner up to \$10,000! There are no income limits for this program.

All interested owners should contact the Community Development Director at 651-552-4140.

The City of West St. Paul has recently updated the ordinance on grass length and weeds. In order to keep the city looking clean and pristine, the maximum length of grass allowed has decreased from 12 inches to 8 inches. In addition to exceeding the maximum length of grass, noxious weeds are not allowed. Please remember that grass along the boulevard is also the responsibility of the property owner.



Sports Complex Reconstruction Update

Phase II improvements are well under way. As long as the County is constructing a new round-about and Oakdale is being resurfaced, we are continuing the improvements we began a few years ago. Phase I construction took place in 2012 and added 3 ½ acres of new parkland along Wentworth Ave, including trails, additional parking, a new playground and picnic shelter.

For this phase, building improvements were completed over the winter. Field lighting was replaced recently, which will allow for better monitoring and automatic remote scheduling of the lights. Resurfacing of the parking lot and trails, a new irrigation system, and the addition of picnic space and a new plaza area will begin in early August and will finish this fall. The park will be back open for business in 2018.

SCHOOL BOARD ELECTIONS



On November 7, 2017, voters will elect three residents to serve on the seven-member School Board of School District 197. The terms of three current School Board seats (John Chandler, Stephanie Levine, Maureen Ramirez) are expiring on January 3, 2018. The period for filing affidavits of candidacy for the office of School Board Member begins at 8am on August 1, 2017 and closes at 5pm on August 15, 2017. Affidavits of candidacy will be available and can be filed in the Superintendent's Office during office hours:

- August 1-14 (8am-4pm Monday through Thursday and 8am-11:30am on Fridays)
- August 15 (8am-5pm)

The District Office is located at 1897 Delaware Avenue, Mendota Heights, MN 55118.

Complete affidavits of candidacy must be filed at the District Office no later than 5pm on August 15, 2017, along with a \$2 filing fee OR a petition with at least 500 signatures of eligible voters in place of the filing fee.

If needed, persons who file for candidacy for School Board have until 5pm on August 17, 2017 to request that their name be removed from the ballot. After August 17, the names of all remaining candidates will be included on the ballot.

For more information, contact Mary Amidon at 651-403-7002 or at mary.amidon@isd197.org

Thompson Oaks Golf Course

2017 GOLF RATES

Regular Greens Fee	\$14
Senior & Junior Fee (weekday)	\$10
Senior & Junior Fee (weekend)	\$11
2nd 9 Holes	\$9
Gas Cart (full cart - 9 holes)	\$9

Thompson Oaks will once again be offering Patron Cards!
\$2 off each round with Patron Card!
Resident Patron Card: \$35
Non-Resident Patron Card: \$45

1555 Oakdale Avenue (651-457-6064)
www.thompsonoaks.com

FATHER'S DAY SPECIAL

Bring dad out for a round of golf. With each three (3) paid greens fees, Dad plays FREE





MOVIES IN THE PARK

Join us out at the parks this summer and enjoy a FREE family movie. Movies start at 9:00 pm and small concession items will be available for purchase.



July 14th
Inside Out (PG)
Thompson Park



July 28th
Finding Dory (PG)
WSP Pool



August 11th
Sing (PG)
Southview Park

Recreation Programs

Fascinating Fridays

Meet at Harmon Park every Friday throughout the summer from 8am - 4pm for fun games and activities, arts and crafts and the splash pad. Each Friday has a fun theme: All Star Sports, Under the Sea, Super-heros and much more!

June 23 - August 18,
Prices range from \$20 - \$30
Registration deadline is one week before the event date.

Summer Playhouse

(Children)

The Summer Playhouse presents "Magic Treehouse" at Harmon Park.

Mondays
June 12 through July 31.

This is a FREE event!

The plays will begin at 9:30 am at Harmon Park and 11 am at Southview Park

Youth Field Trips

(1st – 7th grade)

- June 15 – MN Zoo & IMAX
- June 22 – Twins Game
- June 29 – Edina Aquatic Center
- July 20 – Old Log Theater & AirMaxx
- July 27 – Valley Fair

Prices range from \$25 - \$35 per person. Visit www.wspmn.gov to register.

Teen Field Trips

(Ages 12 – 15)

- June 14 – Saints Game & Mini Golf
- July 12 – Big Thrill Factory & Beach
- August 9 – Bunker Beach

Prices range from \$25 - \$30 per person. Visit www.wspmn.gov to register.

West St. Paul Pool

The City of West St Paul continues its partnership with the YMCA in West St Paul to provide the high level of service residents have come to expect. Pool rentals will still be available for private parties.

The 2017 season will begin on Saturday, June 10th. Season Passes will be sold exclusively at the YMCA at 150 Thompson Ave in West St Paul until June 9th and at the pool starting June 10th.

2017 SEASON PASS COSTS

RESIDENT	
Resident Individual	\$55
Resident Family (1st Member)	\$55
Each Additional Member	\$45
CURRENT YMCA MEMBERS	
Member Individual	\$35
Family (1st Member)	\$35
Each Additional Member	\$25
NON-RESIDENT	
Non-Resident Individual	\$65
Non-Resident Family (1st Member)	\$65
Each Additional Member	\$55

92 West Orme, West St. Paul

Redirect & Reuse Rainwater

- Install rain barrels under roof downspouts to capture rain for later use to water lawns, gardens, trees, shrubs, and other plants.
- Reusing rainwater decreases the amount of stormwater, nutrients, sediment, and other pollutants that eventually flow to local creeks, streams, and rivers.
- Direct runoff from rooftops, concrete, asphalt, and other impervious areas to lawns instead of into storm drains, to minimize runoff and enhance groundwater absorption.

WSP Ice Arena

The West St Paul Ice Arena is now open year round. Open skating and hockey times are listed below. Please check the website for ice rental information and special event. We will be closed the week of July 4th

Open Skating: (\$3 per person)
Tuesday & Thursday
noon-1:30pm

Open Hockey: (\$5 per person)
Monday & Wednesday
1:10-2:40pm
(Schedules subject to change)

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Meet West St. Paul's Newest Officers



Officer Ben Ellringer

grew up in St Paul and spent *a lot* of time in West St Paul including partaking in activities at the YMCA. He has many family and friends in our community.

After graduating from Minneapolis Community and Technical College, Ben was hired by the Metro Transit Police Department but soon the bus and light rail was enough for him. He wanted to get back to a community environment and West St Paul was a great fit.

Officer Ellringer is a member of the National Latino Peace Officers Association and served on their executive board for four years. Ben is fluent in writing and speaking Spanish and already has a great working relationship with our Spanish speaking population.



Officer Joelle Bartlett

is very excited to be serving such a lively community. She grew up in Columbia Heights, MN where she played high school hockey and wrote for the school newspaper. Joelle went to Bethel University where she got her Bachelor of Arts degree in Psychology and studied International Communication in Switzerland.

Immediately following college, she went back to school at Hennepin Technical College in Brooklyn Park to become a police officer. During her law enforcement schooling, Joelle was a Reserve Police Officer in Columbia Heights and a Community Service Officer in St. Louis Park. Joelle's father, brother, and significant other are also police officers. Joelle enjoys spending time with her 17 month old son, running races, and trying new restaurants. She is looking forward to working and interacting with the youth in our community.



Officer Lucas Forster

came from the Dakota County Sheriff's Office where he worked as a correctional officer in the jail. He was the Assistant Deaf Inmate Coordinator at the facility and has a desire to work with individuals with hearing disabilities.

Lucas is a graduate of Alexandria Technical College's Law Enforcement program and also graduated from Metropolitan State University in 2015. He is an active member of the military as a 3rd class Petty Officer in the United States Navy Reserve.

Lucas has been a lifelong resident of Dakota County and is still living and raising his family near where he grew up. Lucas has a passion for martial arts, yard work and playing with his dogs.

Lucas is excited to work for the City of West St. Paul and loves being able to interact with our great citizens.

Hang Out with the West St. Paul Police Department this Summer!



Night to Unite - August 1st

Night to Unite is an effective and fun way for neighbors to connect with neighbors and to learn new ways to make our community a safer place to live. The West St. Paul Police Department will be out and about on August 1st to talk to residents about crime prevention strategies. Alongside your local law enforcement will be South Metro Fire Department members, City Council members and City Department Heads to listen to important issues residents have regarding their neighborhoods or community.

Whether it's your first time planning your block party or continuing a tradition, you can set up your celebration with your own unique flavor. Your block party can be as elaborate or as simple as you like and can include kids' games, ice cream socials, potlucks, parades, cook outs and more!

For more information on how to plan your party or to register your party, contact Laura Vaughan at 651-552-4235 or lvaughan@wspmn.gov or visit www.wspmn.gov.

Important dates to reminder:

- July 24th- Last day to register block parties
- July 26th - August 1st - Pick up goody bags
- August 1st - Thank You Luncheon 11am to 1pm



Bike Rodeo

June 17, 2017
Wentworth Library (199 Wentworth)
10am - Noon
FREE Event For Families

Learn the ABC's of bike safety and how to properly wear your bike helmet. Test your skills on a bike obstacle course designed by West St. Paul Officers. There will be a Bike Helmet giveaway while supplies last.

Don't forget to bring your bike and helmet!



Little Tikes Safety Camp

August 4, 2017
South Metro Fire/WSP PD
9am - 3:30pm
Kindergartners-2nd Grade
\$20 per child

Your child will have a fun-filled day hanging out with officers and firefighters while learning about being safe in their daily lives. We will learn about fire safety, animal safety, bus safety and much, much more. All participants will receive a lunch, snacks and Safety Camp T-Shirts. Parents join us at 3:00pm for our graduation ceremony.

Two lucky kids will win a bike!



Safe Kids Camp

August 22 and August 23, 2017
Harmon Park
8am to 4:30pm
3rd-5th grade
\$40 per child

This two day camp is packed full of team building activities taught by Police Officers and Fire Fighters. Kids will learn internet safety, food safety, concussion awareness, and how to navigate a map. They will observe a K9 demonstration and see some of the cool tools Public Safety gets to use in their jobs.

Participants receive lunch, snacks and a Safe Kids T-shirt. Parents join us for our graduation ceremony at 4pm on the 23rd.

Two lucky kids will win a bike!

SEVEN AMERICANS WILL DIE IN A HOUSEFIRE TODAY.



Seven times a day someone in this country dies in a home fire. Countless others suffer injuries. To combat these tragic statistics, the Red Cross has launched a nationwide campaign to reduce the number of deaths and injuries due to home fires by 25 percent over the next five years.

The South Metro Fire Department is proud to announce that we have joined the American Red Cross' Home Fire Campaign to install free smoke alarms and share home fire safety information with residents.

The South Metro Fire Department and the Red Cross are asking everyone to take two simple steps that can save lives:

1. Check your existing smoke alarms.
2. Practice fire drills at home.

There are several things families and individuals can do to increase their chances of surviving a fire

- If you (or a neighbor or family member) does not have smoke alarms, install them. At a minimum, put one on every level of the home, inside bedrooms and outside sleeping areas.
- If you have alarms, test them today. If they don't work, replace them.
- Make sure that everyone in the family knows how to get out of every room and how to get out of the home in less than two minutes.
- Practice that plan. What's the household's escape time?

for more
Information



To learn more about home fire safety, including safety checklists, printable fire escape plans and more, visit redcross.org/mn/homefires.

Need help? To schedule a home visit, contact the South Metro Fire Department at 651-552-4176

Recycling

Recycling Goal for Dakota County

Dakota County's recycling rate has hovered at around 50-percent for years now. Legislation passed a few years ago set a goal of a 75-percent recycling rate by 2030. With your help, we can achieve that goal.

TOP 10 TO RECYCLE

1. Cardboard
2. Paper
3. Food boxes (not freezer boxes)
4. Mail
5. Beverage cans
6. Food cans
7. Glass bottles
8. Jars (glass & plastic)
9. Jugs
10. Plastic bottles with caps

TOP 7 TO TRASH

1. Styrofoam
2. Paper "to-go" cups
3. Garden hoses
4. Mirrors
5. Ceramics
6. Wire
7. Extension cords

Page 5 quiz answers!

There are many other items that are recyclable but must be recycled separately, such as plastic bags and batteries. Plastic bags cannot be recycled through curbside collection because they wrap around the sorting machines causing damage, and ultimately end up in the trash. Plastic bags can be taken to retailers such as grocery stores for recycling. Food shelves are happy to accept clean plastic and brown paper grocery bags for bagging groceries.

Household electronics and batteries are recyclable but must be brought to The Recycling Zone. If these items end up in curbside recycling they will clog the sorting machines and cause damage. To learn more about proper recycling for electronics and batteries visit www.dakotacounty.us and search Recycling Zone.

Partially funded by the MN Pollution Control Agency and the Dakota County Board of Commissioners.



Thompson Park Organics Drop Site

The City of West St. Paul recently partnered with Dakota County to open the County's first free residential organics drop site, located at Thompson County Park. The drop site provides residents with a convenient and easy way to manage organics, such as food waste and soiled paper.

Step 1: Sign up

Call 952-891-7557 or email organics@co.dakota.mn.us. You'll receive a welcome kit mailed to your home with a free container label, compostable bags and details on how to recycle organics. You'll also receive the access code to the locked drop-off location.

Step 2: Setting up

Put organics recycling container in a convenient location

- Reuse an ice cream bucket, coffee container or purchase an organics countertop container.
- Line the container with a paper bag or certified compostable bag. Compostable bags are free at the Dakota County organics drop-off location. If using your own bag, check that it has the BPI (Biodegradable Products Institute) or Cedar Grove logo on the bag or box.

Step 3: Collect

Common items include:

- All food
- Paper towels, napkins, tissues
- Paper egg cartons and egg shells
- Houseplant trimmings and flowers

Step 4: Drop Off

Bring organics to the drop-off location during park hours. Take a free compostable bag to start all over!

Find a full list of what's accepted and tips on collection at www.dakotacounty.us. Search organics drop off.

*Dakota County, 952-891-7557, organics@co.dakota.mn.us
West St. Paul, 651-552-4118, cschueller@wspmn.gov*

Family Fun Day!

September 30th - 3-9pm

at Harmon Park in West St. Paul!
230 Bernard St.

FREE!



&



Many fun vehicles including: Fire truck, Paving Dump truck, Tow truck, American Red Cross, Ambulance, Police car and many more!

This family-centered event features entertainment such as the Teddy Bear Band, face painting, a bounce house, and more. There will be food and beverages for purchase.

**Fireworks
9pm**



Sponsored by: Junior League of Saint Paul,
South Robert Street Business Association,
and the City of West St. Paul